We learn of the death of Georges Widmer's granddaughter. She was six weeks old. Em., making a round of visits, informs Mme Walckenaer of the sad news.

"Good heavens! And I have just sent them my card to congratulate them on the birth. . . ."

"But, my child/* exclaims another elderly lady paying a visit, *if there was nothing written on it, it can do just as well as an expression of condolence."

Beaunier. His smile, his laugh seem, after each sentence, to beg your pardon. He is one of the most *embarrassed* people T know.

15

January

This morning Leon Blum reads me the first act of his play *(La Cottre)™*

Today Molicre takes his revenge for the fact that Blum has always preferred Marivaux to him.

Finished *Charles Dcmailhj.* It is a hateful book full of remarkable good points.

The word *"naturiste** is found in *Outamaro* (pp. 112 and 116),[18]

Masaccio is the *"naluriste"* painter *(Italic d'hier,* pp. 111 and 134, written in 1855).

16

January

This morning I feel well; I awake ready for anything; my mind lively, my head clear, and *full of receptivity.* I ought to go and see Roger Marx, but cannot make up my mind to give to others these perfect morning hours. Walk avenue cle FOpera. Visit to the Louvre (hall of French sculpture). Although my eyes hurt me (because I kept on, last night, reading C<5sar Franck with the light in my eyes), I feel a vis-

ual appetite that makes of each glance a delight. What I see goes to my head at once, I danced in front of the Houdons, wept in front of the Rudes, pranced in front of the Carpeaux. I should have liked to take Em. back there immediately.

[13] *Wrath* Apparently this play was never either produced or published,

[18] The short-lived "naturist" school began to appear in 189S as a revolt against the hermetic poetry of symbolism with its back turned to life. Maurice Le Blond and St-Georges de Bouh&ier led the group that in 1897 founded the monthly *Revue naturiste.* But rather than an artistic doctrine they represented an ethic, to which Andr<§ Gide felt a natural sympathy and was inevitably linked because of his *Paludes (*1895) and *Noumtures terrestres (*1897) , Yet he refused, as always, to be classified.